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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES: RE-THINKING THE STRATEGY

Note by the Executive Secretary

- This note supplements the information contained in document E/ECE/1376.
- Table 1 contains specific information on the activities of the Regional Advisers
- Table 2 provides a list of workshops, seminars, study tours, training courses and other meetings of an operational nature organized since March 1999 or planned to be organized. These include events organized directly by ECE and those to which ECE provided major contribution or support.
- Table 3 summarizes operational activities undertaken for subregional groupings/special initiatives/programmes.
- Table 4 presents operational activities in the Mediterranean.

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Table 1. Activities of the Regional Advisers

Country visited	Purpose
	ENERGY
Austria	- To service a Working Session on Energy at the SECI/ECE Conference on Priorities for the EU Stability Pact, 3-5 October 1999
Belarus	- To evaluate the implementation of the joint UNDP-ECE project on sustainable forestry management; to conduct a workshop on rational utilization of wood residue resources; to discuss with UNDP joint implementation of a new ECE project on energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation, Minsk, Vitebsk, Gomel, Grodno, 8-18 June 1999 - To discuss with UNDP a joint project on wide utilisation of indigenous energy sources; to work on the joint UNDP-ECE project on sustainable forestry management; to speed up ratification of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; to work on energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation; Minsk, Zaslavl, Borovliany, Kedisko, 19-29 October 1999 - To prepare a final project report on sustainable forestry management; to elaborate proposal for the project on greenhouse gas emissions; to assist in preparing a plan for the project on energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation; Minsk, 1-8 February 2000
Bulgaria	- To participate in a Workshop on promotion of investments in gas and oil interconnections in Southeastern Europe, 3-4 June 1999
Czech Republic	- To conduct a first preparatory meeting of the ECE /OECD Workshop on enhancing the environment by reforming energy pricing, to be held in the Czech Republic in June 2000; Prague, 29-30 April 1999
Kazakhstan	- To introduce to Kazakh authorities a new ECE project on energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation, Almaty, 11-14 July 1999 - To discuss with UNDP joint implementation of the above project, Almaty, 21-23 November 1999
Kyrgyzstan	- To service the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Project Working Group (PWG) sessions of the SPECA project on rational use of energy and water resources of Central Asia, Bishkek, 8-9 July 1999, 18-19 November 1999 and 23-25 February 2000
Latvia	- To service a seminar on energy efficiency in the Baltic Sea region, Riga, 12-14 May 1999
Netherlands	- To participate in the second meeting of the "Friends of Chair" of the Working Group of Energy Charter Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects, The Hague, 9-11 September 1999

Country visited	Purpose
Russian Federation	- To participate in the First International Trade Fair for Energy Saving Technology; to take part in the seminar on legal, regulatory and financing facilities of energy saving; to conduct the first meeting on a study within a project on energy efficiency and security in CIS countries; to discuss a new ECE project on energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation, Moscow, 8-17 March 1999 - To take part in the International Conference on cooperation among the Black Sea countries; to conduct the second meeting on energy efficiency and security in CIS countries project, Lazarevskaia, Moscow, 21-28 April 1999 - To advise on energy conservation in Russia; to take part in the International Conference-Fair on Energy Saving: Business Partnership; to conduct the second meeting on the study within the project on energy efficiency and security in CIS countries, Moscow, Balakovo, 22-30 June 1999 - To identify two/three energy saving pilot projects for Norwegian involvement; to identify EEDZ in Russia within a new ECE project on energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation; to discuss the study on energy efficiency and security in CIS countries, St.Petersburg, Moscow, 31 August-8 September 1999 - To launch a joint US Department of Energy/UN Foundation project on energy saving in Moscow Medical Academy, Moscow, 30 September-2 October 1999 - To assist in preparation of the study on energy efficiency and security in CIS countries, Moscow, Cheboksary, 24-30 November 1999 - To conduct the third meeting on the study within the project on energy efficiency and security in CIS countries; to discuss with UNDP joint implementation of the project on energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation and to assist Russian experts in preparing a plan for the above project, Moscow, 9-15 February 2000
Ukraine	- To launch a new ECE project on energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation in Ukraine and to visit Energy Efficiency Demonstration Zones; to elaborate a project document on greenhouse gas emissions for GIF financing, Kiev, Slavutich, Nikolaev, Dneprodzerzhinsk, Zaporozhye, Simferopol, 14-25 September 1999

Country visited	Purpose
	ENVIRONMENT
Austria	- To participate in the Workshop for the Danube Environment Fund/Facility, Vienna, 17-19 February 1999 - To co-chair the Conference "Organic farming in the EU-perspective for the 21st Century", Vienna, 26-30 May 1999 - To participate in the meeting of the International Commission for the Protection of Danube River and the Programme Management Task Force, Vienna, 11-13 June 1999 - To participate in preparation of the environmental part of the SECI/ECE Conference on Priorities for the EU Stability Pact, Vienna, 4-7 August 1999 - To participate in the above Conference, Vienna, 3-5 October 1999 - To participate in the follow-up meeting on ECE/SECI projects, Vienna, 4 November 1999 - To participate in the joint meeting on future cooperation between ECE, ICPDR, SECI, Vienna, 9-11 December 1999
Belgium	- To present the report "The Kosovo conflict - consequences for the environment and human settlements", Brussels, 27 October 1999
Bosnia and Herzegovina	- To participate in the Environmental Steering Committee for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo-Banja Luka, 1-3 March 1999 - To participate in the meeting of the Environmental Steering Committee, Sarajevo, 20-21 May 1999 - To participate in preparation of a transboundary ground water project between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo, 10-11 November 1999 - To participate in the OSCE seminar on environmental impacts of armed conflicts; preparation of a training workshop for Bosnia and Herzegovina on environmental conventions, Sarajevo, 11-14 December 1999 - To prepare a project on the protection of ground waters in the Cetina catchment area, Mostar, 27-29 February 2000
Croatia	- To attend the Programme Management Task Force of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River, Varazdin, 8 March 1999, and the Environmental Performance Review, Zagreb, 9-18 March 1999 - Preparation of a water project for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Zagreb, 1-4 July 1999 - To participate in preparation of a transboundary ground water project between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Zagreb, 7-9 November 1999 - To prepare a programme for the protection of the Adriatic water catchment areas, Zagreb, 8-10 February 2000
France	- To participate in the Workshop on Integrated Coastal Area Management (Mediterranean Action Plan), Toulon, 10-12 January 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Germany	- To discuss cooperation and funding of water projects with Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufban, Frankfurt, 21-22 April 1999 - To participate in the Working Group on Water Management and preparation of the Work Plan 2000-2003, Bonn, 16-17 September 1999 - To participate in the Conference "Sewerage charges in Europe", Berlin, 26 October 1999
Greece	- To participate in the Legal Task Force under the ECE Water Convention, Athens, 19-21 December 1999
Hungary	- To attend the Conference on "EU Environmental Requirements - Industrial and Regional Development", Budapest, 15-18 April 1999 - To participate in the International Conference on Public Participation, Budapest, 27 June-1 July 1999
Italy	- To participate in the preparatory meeting of the Second Conference of the Stability Pact Working Table II, Rome, 17-18 December 1999 - To prepare the programme for the protection of the Adriatic water catchment areas, Rome, 6-8 February 2000
Kyrgyzstan	- To participate in the 2nd and 3rd PWG sessions of the SPECA project on energy and water, Bishkek, 6-9 July and 16-19 November 1999
Latvia	- To participate in the Seminar on a transboundary water agreement for the Daugava river, Sigulda, 26-29 September 1999
Netherlands	- To assist the Avalon Foundation to prepare a project for environmental protection through investments in organic agriculture, Amsterdam, 20-21 April 1999 - To assist in preparation and fund-raising of water- and agriculture related project, Amsterdam, The Hague, 22-25 July 1999 - To prepare a pilot programme on transboundary ground waters; to prepare the ECE-CEI projects on organic farming, Lelystad, Amsterdam, 14-17 October 1999 - To participate in the Bureau meeting of the ECE Water Convention, The Hague, 1-3 December 1999 - To prepare the transboundary ground waters project and the programme for the protection of the Adriatic water catchment areas, Amsterdam, The Hague, 18-21 January 2000
Romania	- To attend a preparatory meeting for a SECI national seminar on financing municipal water and waste water projects in Romania, Bucharest, 8-11 April 1999 - To participate as facilitator/Chairman in the SECI/ECE Seminar "Private sector participation in water supply and sewerage service in Romania and Republic of Moldova", Bucharest, 17-18 June 1999

Country visited	Purpose
Romania (continued)	- To participate in the Project Preparation Committee conference for Romania and Bulgaria, Bucharest, 1-3 November 1999 - To participate in preparation of municipal water projects in Romania, Bucharest, 21-22 November 1999 - To participate in the meeting of the Programme Management Task Force of the ICPDR, Sinaia, 23-25 November 1999
Slovakia	- To participate as a speaker in the Conference "EU water management framework directive and Danubian countries", Bratislava, 21-23 June 1999
Slovenia	- To participate in the consultation on a programme for the protection of the Adriatic water catchment areas, Ljubljana, 7-8 December 1999
Switzerland	- To participate in the Crans-Montana Forum, 24-27 June 1999
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	- To participate in the meeting on the Regional Environmental Reconstruction Plan for South East Europe, Skopje, 25-28 January 2000 - To participate in the Stability Pact Working Table II, Skopje, 9-11 February 2000
Ukraine	- To service the Environmental Performance Review Mission, Kiev, 18-20 May 1999
United Kingdom	- To participate as a speaker in the International Water Seminar on securing water rights and managing water scarcity and to prepare the work of the Legal Advisory Service under the Water Convention, Dundee, 8-13 June 1999
TRADE	
Albania	- To assist the Albanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the re-establishment of the National Trade Facilitation Committee (ALBAPRO), Tirana, 22-23 March 1999
Austria	- To participate in SECI Business Advisory Council meeting, Vienna, 5-8 May 1999 - To participate in meeting of SECIPRO and EUROPRO, Vienna, 26-28 May 1999 - To attend UNCITRAL session on arbitration, Vienna, 29 May-1 June 1999 - To participate in SECI/OSCE Coordination Meeting, Salzburg, 25-28 July 1999 - To accompany the Deputy Executive Secretary to an OSCE conference, Vienna, 21 September 1999 - To participate in the SECI/ECE Conference on Priorities for the EU Stability Pact, Vienna, 2-4 October 1999 - To participate in the UN Convention on the Transition Crime Ad hoc Group meeting, Vienna, 5-7 October 1999 - To participate in the Stability Pact Conference, Alpbach, 10-12 October 1999
Azerbaijan	- To participate in the seminar on the cooperation of SMEs with transitional corporations, Baku, 30 September 1999
Bangladesh	- To act as resource person at the ESCAP/ECE BOT Expert Group Meeting, Dhaka, 9-14 October 1999

Country visited	Purpose
Belgium	- To attend a Joint Terre Initiative/IPR meeting, Brussels, 12-15 February 1999 - To attend meetings with European Investment Bank and the World Bank on the Stability Pact and SECI Project, Brussels, 25-27 October 1999
Bulgaria	- To participate in UN/ECE BOT Group Roundtable at the South East Europe Economic Forum, Sofia, 18-20 October 1999
Czech Republic	- To discuss with speakers, sponsors and governments officials preparations for the UN/ECE REAG Conference, Prague, 7-9 April 1999 - To participate in the UN/ECE REAG Conference, Prague, 13-16 April 1999 - To prepare for a WP.5 Forum, Prague, 23-24 May 1999 - To attend the OSCE Economic Forum, Prague, 25-28 May 1999 - To attend the UN/ECE Conference and preparatory meeting for WP.5, Prague, 5-7 September 1999 - Consultations with Czech Minister of Competition, Prague and Brno, 9-10 September 1999 - To participate in the FITPRO Trade Facilitation workshop, Prague, 12-16 October 1999 - To participate in the CEI Summit Economic Forum, Prague, 3-6 November 1999 - To participate in the Forum on new trends in competition law and their implications for business, Brno, 28 November-1 December 1999
France	- Presentation at REAG Round Table Discussion, Cannes, 12-13 March 1999 - To attend the UN/EC BOT Group Meeting, Paris, 21 June 1999 - To attend the BOT Meeting, Paris, 24 September 1999
Greece	- To participate in the Thessaloniki Forum Conference, Thessaloniki, 9-11 May 1999 - To participate in the second meeting of the SECI Joint Cooperation Committee for Combatting Trans-Border Crime, Athens, 20-23 July 1999 - To participate in the SECI Trilateral Trade Facilitation meeting, Thessaloniki, 20-21 September 1999 - To participate in the Rebuilding Southeast Europe Economic and Business Summit, Thessaloniki, 31 October-3 November 1999
Hungary	- To participate in the SECI Business Advisory Council and SECIPRO meetings, Budapest, 12-14 December 1999
Italy	- To participate in an inaugural meeting of ItaliaPRO, Trieste, 9-10 March 1999 - To attend SECI Business Advisory Council meeting, Rome, 10-12 March 1999 - To participate in SECIPRO and SECI Business Advisory Council meetings, Rome, 11-12 March 1999 - To participate in the UN/ECE BOT Group Meeting, Milan, 22-23 March 1999 - To participate in EU Stability Pact Working Table II, Bari, 8-9 October 1999

Country visited	Purpose
Kazakhstan	- To participate in the PWG session of the SPECA project on development of transport infrastructure and cross-border facilitation, Almaty, 17-19 October 1999
Malta	- To discuss initial trade facilitation review for the Government of Malta, Valetta, 14-17 November 1999
Poland	- To attend the Conference "Bridging the Gaps", Warsaw, 9-13 May 1999 - To participate in a Seminar on Public/Private partnership, Warsaw, 17-19 November 1999
Romania	- To participate in a meeting of the SECI Project Group on Crime and Corruption, Bucharest, 21-23 April 1999 - To participate in signing of the SECI Charter for Regional Cooperation to Combat Crime and Corruption, Bucharest, 25-26 May 1999 - To participate in the third Preparatory Meeting of the SECI Joint Cooperation Committee, Bucharest, 15-18 September 1999
Slovenia	- To participate in the meetings with the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations to establish national Trade Facilitation Committee, Ljubljana, 29 June-1 July 1999 - To participate in the SECIPRO and SECI Business Advisory Council meetings, Bled, 20-23 October 1999
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	- To represent ECE and SECI at the Joint Albania-The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Workshop on Investment Barriers, Skopje, 19-21 November 1999
Turkey	- To participate in the SECI Project Group Meeting on "Cooperation among Securities Markets", Istanbul, 11-13 July 1999 - To attend an OSCE Economic Summit, Istanbul, 8-10 November 1999
United Kingdom	- To attend first meeting of two IPR sub-groups, London, 15 February 1999 - To attend the Steering Group of the UN/ECE IPR Meeting, London, 21-23 February 1999 - To attend EBRD annual meeting, London, 16-19 April 1999 - To discuss sponsorship of IP Group (IFPI), Valuation (REAG) and Competition Law, and preparation of CEI Summit Meeting in November, London, 23-26 July 1999 - To attend a conference on infrastructure financing, London, 15-16 November 1999
USA	- To attend the WTO Ministerial Meeting, Seattle, 28 November-2 December 1999
TRANSPORT	
Austria	- To attend the SECI/ECE Conference on Priorities for the EU Stability Pact, Vienna, 2-4 October 1999
Bosnia and Herzegovina	- To review a draft transport legislation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo, February 2000

Country visited	Purpose
Bulgaria	- To prepare and conduct the fourth meeting of the SECI Group IV on transport infrastructure development along major international axis, Sofia, 25 May-2 June 1999 - To prepare the fifth meeting of the SECI Group IV on transport infrastructure development along major international axis, Sofia, 11-12 November 1999 - To conduct the above meeting, Sofia, 30 November-1 December 1999
Croatia	- To attend the meeting on the Adriatic-Ionian highway project in the framework of the Stability Pact, Dubrovnic, 17 January 2000
Georgia	- To participate in and make presentation on transport challenges in the Black Sea region at the Ministerial Round Table on BSEC at the Turn of the 21st Century, Tbilisi, 9-10 March 1999 - To meet with the Georgian Ministry of Transport, GIRCA and Customs Department concerning implementation of ECE legal instruments and the newly proposed border crossing at Kartsaki, Tbilisi, 11 March 1999 - To meet with the Georgian Ministry of Transport and GIRCA on the follow-up of the meeting of 11 March 1999, Tbilisi, 30 June 1999 - To attend the first meeting of the Steering Committee on the development of the Black Sea pan-European transport area (PETrA-BS), Tbilisi, 1-2 July 1999
Greece	- To attend the BSEC meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Thessaloniki, 24-28 October 1999
Italy	- To participate in the informal meeting of the EU Stability Pact Working Table II, Rome, 17 November 1999
Kazakhstan	- To attend the 2nd and 3rd PWG sessions of the SPECA project on development of transport infrastructure and cross-border facilitation, Astana, 7-8 June 1999 and Almaty, 17-20 October 1999
Turkey	- To attend the second meeting of the Steering Committee on development of the Black Sea pan-European transport area (PETrA-BS), Istanbul, Izmir, 25-26 November 1999 - To participate in the Working Group meeting on infrastructure of ports and their hinterland connections to corridors of the PETrA-BS, 3 February 2000
COORDINATING UNIT FOR OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES	
Armenia	- Consultations with Government officials and to participate in the workshop on the role of local and regional Government in enterprise creation, Yerevan, 17-19 March 1999
Azerbaijan	- To participate in the seminar on the cooperation of SMEs with transnational corporations, Baku, 30 September 1999
Belarus	- To advise on the development of the Belarus SME programme and attend inauguration of the best entrepreneurs, Minsk, 18 February 1999
Croatia	- To participate in the CEI-UN/ECE conference on women's entrepreneurship, Brijuni, 21-22 October 1999

Country visited	Purpose
Czech Republic	- To participate in the 2nd CEI Summit Economic Forum and to moderate a seminar on SME promotion, Prague, 4-6 November 1999
France	- To participate in the international conference on good practice in business incubation, Albi, 14-15 October 1999
Hungary	- Consultations with officials of the Ministry of Economy, Budapest, 26 March 1999 - Consultations on the CEI Summit Economic Forum 2000 with Government officials, Budapest, 13-14 September 1999 - To participate in the annual meeting of the Hungarian Engineering Academy and consultations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on preparation of the 2000 CEI Summit Economic Forum, Balatonfüred, Budapest, 26 November-2 December 1999 - To participate in the CEI Committee of National Coordinators meeting; to discuss organizational matters of the CEI Summit Economic Forum 2000 with Government officials, Budapest, 27-28 January 2000
Kazakhstan	- To participate in the joint ECE/ESCAP training workshop on training of trainers in management of SMEs, Almaty, 11-14 May 1999 - To participate in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th PWG sessions of the SPECA project on development of transport infrastructure and cross-border facilitation, Astana, 4-9 June 1999 and Almaty, 17-20 October 1999 and 30-31 March 2000 - To participate in the Meeting of Deputy Foreign Ministers of SPECA member States, Almaty, 5-11 December 1999
Kyrgyzstan	- To participate in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th PWG sessions of the SPECA project on energy and water, Bishkek, 8-9 July 1999, 18-19 November 1999 and 23-25 February 2000
Republic of Moldova	- Advisory consultations with Government officials and to participate in the conference on the State and SME business, Chisinau, 27-30 April 1999
Russian Federation	- To attend a meeting of interregional association "Siberian Accord", Kemerovo, 14-18 January 1999 - To participate in the Conference on the issues of federalism in the Russian Federation, Kazan, 8-12 February 1999 - To participate in the Conference on adaptation of EU experience for SME support in Russia, Moscow, 31 March 1999 - To participate in the St. Petersburg Economic Forum, St. Petersburg, 15-18 June 1999 - Consultations with the CIS Secretariat, Moscow, 13-16 October 1999
Tajikistan	- To participate in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd PWG sessions of the SPECA project on international economic conference, Dushanbe, 16-23 May 1999, 22-26 November 1999 and 23-24 March 2000
Ukraine	- Consultations with the Ministry of Ecology, Kiev, 21-22 October 1999

Table 2. Workshops, seminars, study tours, training courses and other meetings of operational nature

Division	Title
Energy	Workshops/seminars 1. Workshops on the implementation of the EU Gas Directive, Szirak, Hungary, 1-4 March 1999, and Semmering, Austria, 5-7 October 1999 2. Workshop on energy efficiency demonstration zones, Moscow, Russian Federation, 10-13 March 1999 3. Workshop on energy efficiency standards and labels, Rome, Italy, 11-12 March 1999 4. Seminar on legal, regulatory and financing facilities for energy savings, Moscow, Russian Federation, 13-14 March 1999 5. The Mediterranean Gas Conference: Preparing for the Next Era, Palermo, Italy, 13-14 April 1999 6. Second workshop on energy efficiency and security in the CIS countries, Moscow, Russian Federation, 20-23 April 1999 7. Workshop on power engineering and symposium on lighting engineering, Maribor, Slovenia, 12-14 May 1999 8. Seminar on energy efficiency in the Baltic Sea region, Riga, Latvia, 12-14 May 1999 9. Seminar on energy efficiency investment development project co-financing, Washington, USA, 14 May 1999 10. Workshops on gas transportation and tariffs (GATE 2010), Geneva, Switzerland, 18 May and 30 September 1999 11. Seminar and study tour on clean coal technologies, Czech Republic, 3-5 June 1999 12. Workshop on promotion of investments in gas and oil interconnections in Southeastern Europe, Bulgaria, 3-4 June 1999 13. Workshop on rational utilization of wood residue resources for heat power production in Belarus, Minsk, Belarus, 10-11 June 1999 14. Conference on opening up of the gas and electricity markets in the ECE region, Prague, Czech Republic, 21-22 June 1999 15. Workshops on reconstruction of energy market in former Yugoslavia, Budapest, Hungary, 1 and 20 September 1999 16. Seminar on the restructuring of the coal and thermal power sectors including the ecological aspects, Ustron, Poland, 14-16 October 1999 17. Workshop on energy efficiency standards and labels, Brussels, Belgium, 25-26 October 1999

Division	Title
Energy (continued)	18. Workshop on gas contracting along the chain, Geneva, Switzerland, 27 October 1999 19. International conference on regional network for the efficient use of resources, Sofia, Bulgaria, 17-18 November 1999 20. International Conference on integration of Central and Eastern European countries into a wider gas market and East/West cooperation, Leipzig, Germany, 29-30 November 1999 21. Workshops on energy efficiency investment project development for climate change mitigation, Geneva, Switzerland, 13-14 January and 28-29 February 2000 Planned: 22. Seminar on energy savings, Moscow, Russian Federation, 13-16 March 2000 23. Mediterranean Gas and Power 2000 Conference: trade and convergence in a changing region, Tunis, 11-12 April 2000 24. ECE/OECD Workshop on enhancing the environment by reforming energy pricing, Pruhonice, Czech Republic, 14-16 June 2000 25. International conference on hybrid power systems for sustainable development, New York, USA, September 2000 Training course 1. Natural gas rate-making in the ECE region, Groningen, Netherlands, 14-19 March 1999
Environment	Workshops/seminars 1. Workshop on the significance of ECE policies and instruments for the sustainable development of Central Asian countries, Geneva, 15-16 March 1999 2. Workshop on modern cadastre, Bonn, Germany, March 1999 3. Workshop on critical levels for ozone, level II; Gerzensee, Switzerland, 11-15 April 1999 4. Workshop on sharing experience on the implementation of the Water Convention, Nizhni Novgorod, Russian Federation, 26 May 1999 5. Workshop on housing privatization, Cracow, Poland, 30 May-1 June 1999 6. International Water Seminar on securing water rights and managing water scarcity, Dundee, United Kingdom, 8-13 June 1999 7. Tenth Mapping Workshop, Prague, Czech Republic, 15-18 June 1999 8. Seminar on private sector participation in water supply and sewerage services in Romania and Republic of Moldova, Bucharest, Romania, 17-18 June 1999 9. Workshop on transboundary waters: enhancing cooperation and managing conflict, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 7-9 July 1999

Division	Title
Environment (continued)	10. Seminar on housing condominiums, Moscow, Russian Federation, 22-24 July 1999 11. Workshop on river and lake commissions, Bonn, Germany, 13-14 Sept. 1999 12. Seminar on a transboundary water agreement for the Daugava river, Sigulda, Latvia, 26-29 September 1999 13. Workshop on managing and developing effective land registration and cadastre services, London, United Kingdom, September 1999 14. Seminar on the prevention of chemical accidents and limitations of their impact on transboundary waters, Hamburg, Germany, 4-6 October 1999 15. Second EMEP/WMO Workshop on data analysis and interpretation, Dubrovnik, Croatia, 4-8 October 1999 16. Workshop on heavy metals, Bad Harzburg, Germany, 12-15 October 1999 17. Seminar on flood prevention and protection, Berlin, Germany, 7-8 October 1999 18. Workshop on experience of countries with limited resources of water with increasing public awareness on water saving, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 17-19 November 1999 19. Workshop on critical loads for acidity and eutrophication: criteria, concepts and biological indicators, Copenhagen, Denmark, 21-25 November 1999 20. EMEP/WMO Workshop on fine particles - emissions, modelling and measurements, Davos, Switzerland, 22-25 November 1999 21. WMO/EMEP MSC-E Workshop on modelling of atmospheric transport and deposition of persistent organic pollutants and mercury, Geneva, Switzerland, 1-3 December 1999 22. Workshop on management of transboundary lakes, Tartu, Estonia, mid-December 1999 23. Workshop on Integrated Coastal Area Management (Mediterranean Action Plan), Toulon, 10-12 January 2000 24. Workshop on housing finance, Timisoara, Romania, 30 January-1 February 2000 <u>Planned</u>: 25. ECE/OECD Workshop on enhancing the environment by reforming energy pricing, Pruhonice, Czech Republic, 14-16 June 2000 26. Workshop on urban renewal and housing modernization, Prague, Czech Republic, 2000 27. Workshop on sustainable consumption patterns, 2001 <u>Training course</u> 1. Training course on points of contact under Industrial Accidents Convention, Moscow (Noginsk), Russian Federation, 7-8 June 1999

Division	Title
Statistics	Workshops/seminars 1. Joint ECE/Eurostat workshop on statistical data confidentiality, Thessaloniki, Greece, 8-10 March 1999 2. Workshop on gender statistics for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine, Minsk, Belarus, 12-17 March 1999 3. Workshop on gender statistics for the Central Asian and Caucasus countries, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 4-9 April 1999 4. Workshop on gender statistics for CEES and Baltic countries, Bled, Slovenia, 17-19 April 1999 5. Seminar on census data collection experience for CIS and Baltic countries, Moscow, Russian Federation, 12-16 May 1999 6. Workshop on statistical data editing, Rome, Italy, 4-6 June 1999 7. Workshop on poverty measurement for CEES and Baltic countries, Vilnius, Lithuania, 3-7 July 1999 8. Workshop of the task force on the census project, Geneva, Switzerland, 30 July 1999 9. Workshop on statistical metadata, Geneva, Switzerland, 22-24 September 1999 10. Workshop on poverty measurement for all CIS countries, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 27-30 September 1999 11. Workshop on census data analysis, presentation, etc. for all CIS and Baltic countries, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 25-29 October 1999 12. Workshop on social statistics reporting for CEES and Baltic countries, Bled, Slovenia, 3-5 December 1999 Planned: 13. ECE/Eurostat/ILO Seminar on Measurement of the Quality of Employment, Geneva, Switzerland, 3-5 May 2000 14. Seminar on Integrated Statistical Information Systems and Related Matters, ISIS 2000, Riga, Latvia, 29-31 May 2000 Training courses 1. Census data processing, Kiev, Ukraine, 7-9 May 1999 2. Training/study tour of Moldavian experts on census data entry, Minsk, Belarus, 31 August-5 September 1999 3. Census data processing and assistance, Tbilisi, Georgia, 17-18 September 1999 4. Census data processing and assistance, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, 13-18 October 1999

Division	Title
Trade	Workshops/seminars 1. Seminar on analysis, methodology of treatment and remediation of contaminated soils, Paris, France, 13-15 April 1999 2. Workshop on implementation and use of international standards, Geneva, Switzerland, 18 May 1999 3. Workshop on radioactive contaminated metallurgical scrap, Prague, Czech Republic, 26-28 May 1999 4. Seminar on forest operations of tomorrow, Pessac, France, 20-24 September, 1999 5. Seminar on administrative issues at customs check points and their impact on the development of inter Arab States trade, Cairo, Egypt, 25-27 September 1999 6. FITPRO Trade Facilitation workshop, Prague, Czech Republic, 12-16 October 1999 7. Seminar on electronic commerce in emerging countries: issues and development policies, Marrakech, 11-12 November 1999 8. Seminar on Public/Private partnership, Warsaw, Poland, 17-19 November 1999 9. Joint Albania-The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Workshop on Investment Barriers, Skopje, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 19-21 November 1999 10. Workshop on sustainable development and certification in the Russian forest industries, St.Petersburg, Russian Federation, 12-15 December 1999 11. Trade and investment promotion from a local and regional perspective, Geneva, Switzerland, 2-3 March 2000 Planned: 12. Workshop on the use of ISO 14000 Environmental Management Standards in the chemical industry in the ECE region, Budapest, Hungary, 30-31 March 2000 13. Workshop on forestry information systems, Hyytiälä, Finland, 15-20 May 2000 14. Workshop on sustainable development of marketing of wood and non-wood forest products and services for central and east European countries, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, 16-20 May 2000 15. Seminar on practical aspects of eliminating obstacles to efficient trade finance in transition economies, Riga, Latvia, 1-2 June 2000 16. Workshop on new trends in harvesting with cable cranes, Ossiach, Austria, 11-17 June 2000 17. Seminar on competitiveness in industry: trends in steel consumption-responding to market needs, Budapest, Hungary, 11-12 September 2000

Division	Title
Trade (continued)	18. Seminar on harvesting of non-wood forest products in the Mediterranean region, Manemen, Turkey, 2-8 October 2000 19. Workshop on harmonization of technical legislation, Turkey, 2000 20. Seminar on women in forestry, Lisbon, Portugal, March/April 2001 21. Second seminar on analysis, methodology of treatment and remediation of contaminated soils, Paris, France, April 2001 22. Seminar on public relations and environmental education in forestry, Switzerland, September/October 2001 23. Seminar on afforestation techniques, Ireland, September 2002 Study tours 1. Forest and forest industries study tour in Ireland, Ireland, 5-11 September 1999 Planned: 2. Study tour in Canada on certification of sustainable forest management in forests and forest industries, eastern Canada, September 2000 3. Study tour of the steel industry of China, 15-22 October 2000 4. Study tour of the steel industry of Poland, September 2001
Transport	Workshops/seminars 1. Seminar on User Charges for Railway Infrastructure, Germany, July 1999 2. Workshop on Geographical Information Systems in Transport, Geneva, Switzerland, 15-16 November 1999 Planned: 3. Workshop on assistance to victims of road accidents within the framework of the Third Road Safety Week, Hungary, May 2000 4. Workshop on Extension of TERM Project to ECE Countries in Transition, 2000 Training courses 1. Training course on implementation of TER data bank, Maribor, Slovenia, 1-4 March 1999 2. TEMSTAT training course, Vilnius, Lithuania, 7-9 April 1999 3. Railway traffic forecasting, calculation, analyses and assessments based on exercise, Budapest, Hungary, 14-16 July 1999

Division	Title
Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities	Workshops/seminars 1. Workshop on the Role of Local and Regional Government in Enterprise Creation, Yerevan, Armenia, 18-19 March 1999 2. Seminar on Best Practice in Development of Entrepreneurship and SMEs in CITs: the Czech Experience, Geneva, Switzerland, 2 June 1999 3. Expert Meeting on Best Practice in Business Incubation, Geneva, Switzerland, 3-4 June 1999 4. Seminar on Cooperation of SMEs with Transnational Corporations, Baku, Azerbaijan, 30 September 1999 5. Conference on Women's Entrepreneurship - East-West Cooperation, Brijuni, Croatia, 21-22 October 1999 6. Seminar on SME promotion, Prague, Czech Republic, 4-6 November 1999 7. Seminar on Organizational Assistance, Support Measures and Credit Facilities for SMEs, Tel-Aviv, Israel, 27-29 February 2000 Planned: 8. International Seminar on Best Practice in Simplification of the SME Legal Environment, Maribor, Slovenia, 9-10 March 2000 9. Workshop on Environment Protection and SMEs, Baku, Azerbaijan, 30-31 March 2000 10. International Conference on the Investment Climate for Developing Renewable Energy Sources in Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 18-19 May 2000 11. Workshop on the Role of Micro Credits, Guarantee Funds and Small Scale Credit Institutions, Bulgaria, May 2000 12. International Conference on Technology Transfer for Economic Development: Experience for Countries in Transition, Zagreb, Croatia, 19-20 June 2000 13. Workshop on technology transfer and SMEs, Athens, Greece, October 2000 14. Expert Meeting on Best Practice in Business Advisory, Counselling and Information Services, Geneva, 2-3 November 2000 15. Workshop on SMEs - Standardization and Quality Assurance as Technical Requirements for Manufacturing, Services and Trade, Georgia, November 2000 Training course 1. Joint ECE/ESCAP Training Workshop on Training of Trainers in Management of SMEs for Central Asian and Caucasian Transition Economies, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 11-14 May 1999

Table 3. Operational activities undertaken for subregional groupings/special initiatives/programmes

Subregional groupings/ special initiatives/ programmes	Activities
Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)	- Substantive contribution to the International Round Table: BSEC at the Turn of the 21st Century on economic developments in the ECE region and challenges for the BSEC countries, BSEC overall programme of work and strategies; and on transport challenges in the Black Sea region (Tbilisi, Georgia, 9-10 March 1999); BSEC Working Group on Transport (Greece, 11-12 October 1999); and the meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (Greece, 27 October 1999) - Joint organization of workshops on SMEs: role of local and regional Government in enterprise creation (Baku, Armenia, 18-19 March 1999). Four more workshops on SMEs related issues are planned: environment protection and SME (Azerbaijan, 30-31 March 2000); micro credits, guarantee funds and small-scale credit institutions (Bulgaria, May 2000); technology transfer and SME (Greece, October 2000); and SMEs and standardization , quality assurance (Georgia, November 2000) - A review of the energy efficiency developments in the countries of the BSEC region was prepared for a meeting of Energy Ministers in Georgia
Central European Initiative (CEI)	- ECE/CEI cooperation was reviewed at the joint informal meeting (Geneva, 10-11 May 1999). Cooperation Agreement and MoU signed in May 1998 were considered valid. More emphasis should be given to the cooperation that will lead to reinforcement of peace and stability in the CEI region - Identification, collection and preparation of project ideas and proposals for presenting to international and local financial institutions have continued. These proposals and ideas are also regularly presented at other CEI meetings including meetings of CEI Committee of National Coordinators - The following areas were identified for further work: real estate markets; business incubators; enterprise development; gender issues and women advancement; standards in fresh fruit and vegetables; organic agriculture; micro-financing; banking and SMEs; business advisory services; new investment needs and opportunities; etc.

Subregional groupings/ special initiatives/ programmes	Activities
Central European Initiative (CEI) (continued)	- Support and substantive contribution was made to the CEI Summit Economic Forum and Summit of CEI Heads of Government (Prague, 3-6 November 1999). ECE staff actively participated in panels, seminars and round tables held during the Forum. ECE materials on various issues of interest to EIT were distributed at the ECE stand - Proposals for support measures by governments, regional and local authorities and financial institutions to promote women entrepreneurship in CEI countries were elaborated and presented by ECE at the ECE/CEI/OECD Conference on Women's Entrepreneurship: East-West Cooperation (Brjuni, Croatia, 21-22 October 1999) - Preparation of the network of the SME national focal points
Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)	- Cooperation between ECE and the CIS secretariat was discussed in October 1999 in the light of the restructuring of CIS and its governing bodies in order to prepare ground for the forthcoming meeting of the ECE Executive Secretary and the Chairman of the Executive Committee and Executive Secretariat of the CIS planned for February 2000 - Participation in the CIS meeting of standardization agencies (Armenia, October 1999). Interstate Council on Standardization, Certification and Metrology asked ECE to assist in the organization of a CIS Quality Centre in Minsk. External funding is being sought - Project on energy efficiency and security in CIS has been implemented: two meetings of the group of experts and a workshop were held in Moscow (April 1999) and Geneva (November 1999); three meetings on the study on energy conservation as a factor in increasing the energy security in member States of CIS were held in Moscow in March and June 1999, and February 2000 - Seminar on census data collection experience for CIS and Baltic countries was held in Moscow on 12-16 May 1999 - Cooperation with the Interstate Euro-Asian Coal and Metals Community on the issues of technical cooperation in the utilization of methane gas in the coal mines for the production of electricity

Subregional groupings/ special initiatives/ programmes	Activities
Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI)	- Implementation of the following projects is under way: (a) Trade facilitation - actions to overcome border crossing difficulties (lead country - Greece) (b) Transport infrastructure - identification of bottlenecks along main international corridors in the SECI region and short-term measures to remove them (lead country - Bulgaria) (c) Financial policies to promote SMEs through microcredit and credit guarantee schemes (lead country - Romania) (d) Energy efficiency demonstration zones network in southeast Europe (lead country - Hungary) (e) Interconnection of natural gas networks, diversification of gas supply and improvement of security of supply in southeast Europe (lead country - Bosnia and Herzegovina) (f) Recovery programme for rivers, lakes and adjacent seas (lead country - Austria) (g) Interconnection of electricity grids (lead country - The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) (h) Cooperation among security markets (lead country -Turkey) (i) Combatting cross-border crime and corruption (lead country - Romania) - Implementation of these projects is regularly reviewed at the meetings of the Agenda Committee and Business Advisory Council. ECE's contribution to the implementation of the projects consisted of the following activities: preparation of project outlines for the Agenda Committee; further elaboration of these outlines for meetings of the working groups; securing the cooperation of other UN bodies and agencies as requested by the Coordinator; provision of advisory services and organization of workshops within available resources; regular consultations with the Coordinator and direct reporting to the Agenda Committee. For each project, several project group meetings have been held. The ECE secretariat contributed to the organization of these meetings, prepared background documents and final reports. - Efforts have been made to secure financial support for the projects and the involvement of the business community in their implementation - Participation in meetings on the EU Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, in particular its Working Table II on Economic Reconstruction, Development and Cooperation

Subregional groupings/ special initiatives/ programmes	Activities
Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) (continued)	- Preparation and updating of consolidated list of priority projects of the SECI Participating States for implementing the Stability Pact. It contains projects of small scale and short duration with a starting date in early 2000 (list A) and longer term projects with substantial resource requirements (list B) in the fields of transport, energy efficiency, electricity interconnection, natural gas and environment. The implementation of these projects may start as soon as necessary finance is secured
Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia (SPECA)	- Preparation for the official presentation of the programme to the world community and elaboration of concept paper and scenario of its presentation for discussion at the meeting of Deputy Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Central Asian countries (Almaty, 8-9 December 1999). The official presentation is expected to be held in the first half of 2000 - Contribution to the sessions of Project Working Groups (PWG) under the following projects: (a) transport infrastructure and border crossing facilitation - PWG-Transport: Almaty (June, October 1999 and March 2000) (b) rational and efficient use of energy and water resources - PWG-Energo: Bishkek (July, November 1999, February 2000) (c) international economic conference - PWG-Tajikistan: Dushanbe (May, November 1999, March 2000) - The other two projects included in the programme with Turkmenistan (regional cooperation in developing a multi-choice approach to hydrocarbon supply routes through pipelines to the world markets) and Uzbekistan (industrial restructuring with a view to creating internationally competitive manufacturing industries) as lead countries are at early stages of their implementation - Preparation and submission of projects (a) and (b) for financing under the UN Development Account. In December 1999, the UN General Assembly approved the amount of US$ 1.75 million for the 2000-2001 biennium under project (b)

Table 4. Operational activities in the Mediterranean

Activities
- At its last session, the Commission recognized that ECE's efforts in the Mediterranean had very often failed because of lack of financial resources and, therefore, additional efforts should be made to mobilize resources with a view to responding to the specific circumstances and needs of the Commission's Mediterranean countries. In response to that request, the Executive Secretary invited Governments of the Mediterranean member countries of ECE, ESCWA and ECA to consider possibilities of pursuing joint activities for the benefit of these countries. This issue was discussed at the meeting of the Executive Secretaries of these commissions in New York where the idea was welcomed.
- Operational activities in the Mediterranean region continued in the field of energy, SMEs, forest industries and statistics. In cooperation with the Italian oil and gas companies, the ECE Gas Centre organised the Mediterranean Gas Conference: Preparing for the Next Era, in Palermo, Italy on 13-14 April 1999. Preparations are under way for the next Mediterranean Gas and Power 2000 Conference: Trade and Convergence in a Changing Region, to be held in Tunis on 11-12 April 2000, organized in cooperation with the Tunisian Ministry of Industry and the Tunisian electricity and gas company. A Seminar on organizational assistance, support measures and credit facilities for SMEs was organized by the Israeli Institute and the Small Business Authority of Israel on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel in cooperation with ECE in Tel Aviv (Israel) on 27-29 February 2000. A seminar on harvesting of non-wood forest products in the Mediterranean region will be held in Manemen (Turkey) on 2-8 October 2000. ECE participated in the Workshop on Integrated Coastal Area Management (Mediterranean Action Plan) in Toulon (France) on 10-12 January 2000.
- In 1999, at the request of Eurostat, a staff member of the Statistical Division with expertise in the field of international migration statistics served as a Trainer and Resource Person in three training workshops on international migration statistics that Eurostat and CESD-Roma organized under Eurostat's MEDSTAT-Migration project for countries in the Mediterranean region. The training workshops were organized in Valetta (Malta), Ramallah and Tunis for the following 12 recipient countries/territories: Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. Eurostat has asked the ECE to provide additional support of this kind to the project in the coming year. All expenses for the ECE staff member concerned are paid by Eurostat's MEDSTAT-Migration project.
- ECE has received several suggestions for cooperation on various topics which are under consideration by the secretariat. Among them the following areas are mentioned: agriculture, energy, environment, training, transport and customs, statistics (Italy); air pollution, energy efficiency, trade facilitation (Malta); agriculture, energy, environment including water, legislation, free trade, transport (Turkey).